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FOLK-LORE FROM MAINE.

"PROJECTS." ALL HALLOWEEN.

I WIND, I wind, my true love to find,
 The color of his hair, the clothes he will wear,
 The day he is married to me.

Throw a ball of yarn into barn, old house, or cellar, and wind, repeating the above lines, and the true love will appear, and wind with you. To be tried at twelve o'clock at night, October 31.

An old lady of eighty told me that in her youth this was tested by a girl. Some one knowing she was going to make the test hid himself in the barn, and when the proper time came called out, "Timothy B.," — the name of a man very much disliked by the girl, who was in love with her. She, thinking he had really appeared, and believing from the sign or project that she would have to marry him, became very ill, and only began to recover when they assured her he was not really there.

Cut up two alphabets, put them face down in water at night; then those that are turned over in the morning are the initials of the one you will marry, October 31.

DREAM SIGNS.

Dream of the dead, hear from the living.

Saturday dreamt and Sunday told,
 Come to pass before a week old.

GENERAL SIGNS.

To sneeze between eleven and twelve is sign of a stranger.

Open and shet, sign of more wet.

If the foot itches, you will walk on strange land,

If the nose itches, get mad, see a stranger, kiss a fool, or be in danger.

If you make while sweeping a smut mark on the floor, it is a sign of a stranger.

If you put an article of clothing on wrong side out, it is unlucky to take it off for the purpose of changing before the customary time of removing. But if it must be changed, let another person take it off for you, and turn right side out while removing.

If corns sting, it is a sign of rain.

If ants build up sand around their holes, it is a sign of rain.

If in the morning, or at any time, spiders' webs are to be seen in the bushes or grass, it is a sure sign of fair weather, even if it looks like rain.

If the sun sets in a cloud Friday night, it will rain before the week is out.

When the eyes itch : left, laugh ; right, roar (weep).

Bell in the ear : right ear, good news ; left ear, bad.

Falling up stairs is sign of a beau.

Another version is, Won't be married this year.

Talking backward (saying, for example, backing talkward instead of talking backward) is sign of a beau.

Sneezing three times in succession is sign of a stranger coming.

If you find a pin on the floor with the side towards you, you will have a ride ; head toward you, good luck ; point, disappointment.

If a rooster comes directly under a window or on the doorstep, and crows, it is a sign of a stranger.

If you watch a person out of sight, it is a sign you will never see them again.

If a firebrand, in an open fire, falls forward, it is the sign of a stranger. If there is some one you especially wish to see, take it up, spit on it, and wish for that person, before putting it back.

If you step over a mop-handle it is a sign you will never be married.

If a broom, standing beside a door, falls over across the door, it is a sign of a stranger.

If a stick catches in the dress, while walking, it is the sign of a beau. If it falls off of itself he will leave you. If you have to take it off, it is a better sign.

If the palm of the right hand itches, you shake hands with some one that day ; if the left hand, you will receive money.

MOON SIGNS.

If you see the new moon for the first time through the window, you will hear of the death of some one before the week is over : if it is an upper pane, an old person ; a lower pane, a young person.

Mrs. A., eighty years old, told me the above, and believes it.

If you see the new moon over the right shoulder, good luck ; left, bad luck. Seeing it over right shoulder with something in the hand, you will receive a present.

See it fair in the face, sign of disgrace.

When seeing the new moon for the first time, wish before you speak, and you will get the wish before a week.

DEATH SIGNS.

If a person, carrying a corpse or empty coffin by a house, speaks with a member of the family residing in it, there will be a death within the year in the house.

Instance : Mrs. Mary P. stopped a man thus to inquire who was dead, and one of her own children died within a few months.

If there is a white horse in a funeral procession, it is a sign that another person in the same family will die before the year is out.

If a tick bug is heard, it is a sign of death.

CURES FOR WARTS.

Cross the wart with a knife till the blood comes, then cross the bark of an apple-tree with the same knife. The wart will soon disappear.

This has been tried and found true by two persons in the company.

Steal, or take without any one's knowing it, a few beans, rub them over the wart, do them in a neat package, and lay it where some one will be likely to take it. The person taking the package will get the warts, and yours will be cured.

Rub wart with salt ; bore a hole in a tree, and put the salt in it ; plug up the hole, and the warts will disappear.

BIRD SIGNS.

If a whippoorwill sings night after night near a door or under a window it is a sure sign of approaching death in the house.

Instance : A whippoorwill sang at a back door repeatedly ; finally the woman's son was brought home dead, and the corpse was brought into the house through the back door.

If a partridge is seen in the morning sitting on the doorstep, it is a sure sign of death.

Instance : A woman, a relative of Mrs. G., was ill. Her father went to the door one morning, and saw a partridge sitting on the step, and said, "Sally is going to die !" This she did, shortly after.

Mrs. G., the old lady who told me these bird signs, said she should feel sad to see a partridge or hear a whippoorwill, as above. She believes them to be true signs.

When you hear the first whippoorwill, wish, and the wish will come to pass.

If a rooster flies on to a fence while it is raining, and crows, it is a sure sign that it will clear off.

PLANTING SIGNS.

Field peas must be planted on the full of the moon, or they will "blow" all the season.

Potatoes must be planted on the last quarter, or they do not grow so large.

Cabbages must be set out when the sign is in the head ; will head better.

Gertrude Decrow.